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religious emotion. Something of the same character we believe, pervades this volume. Many readers will be shocked at the ruthless subjection of Christian beliefs to the test of scientific analysis and historical criticism. Jew and Christian, Protestant and Catholic, Deist and Theist share alike in the process of analyses. But he who reads the book through will not fail to be impressed with the deep sense of religious sincerity; of earnest desire for a synthesis of the real essence of religion found in all its various manifestations which reaches down into the common religious consciousness of mankind.

Time alone can determine through further investigation and clearer thinking whether Positivism has arrived at the synthesis which shall "weld into one common life our intellectual, our affective, and our active propensities." Neo-christianity, the Christianity of the most radical schools, is making strenuous effort to "retain the ethical and emotional spirit of the gospel, while discarding its miraculous machinery, and its claim to rest on a divine revelation." Positivism, or the religion of Humanity, goes but one step further: It would add an intellectual element that is altogether "honest, courageous, thorough, and scientific."

The calm confidence continuously expressed by the author in a religion reconciled with science and capable of enlisting the complete man in a whole-hearted service to humanity is the essence of the book.

It is not, as the title indicates, a treatise on the positive evolution of religion. It is rather a defense of the evolution of positivism in religion. It is not a veiled or disguised attack upon orthodoxy. It is a bold and fearless statement of the views of the English Positivist Society by one of its most distinguished and representative members. The substance of the volume was presented first in a series of public lectures at Newton Hall.

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HEAWOOD, EDWARD. *A History of Geographical Discovery in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries*. Pp. xii, 475, with maps. Price, \$3.75. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1912.

This book has brought together in connected history the stories of geographical discovery following the so-called age of great discoveries. At the beginning of the seventeenth century, the general outlines of the continents, with the exception of Australia and the parts washed by the North Pacific Ocean, were fairly well determined. It remained for future explorers to fill in the details and to sweep the broad oceans to make sure no other great land masses were to be found. It is with these very important explorations, only less thrilling than the great pioneer discoveries of the preceding century, that this book deals. The most marked characteristic of the period here dealt with was the unveiling of the Pacific Ocean and the opening of the interior of North America and northern Asia. Africa remained dark until late in the nineteenth century while the secrets of the Polar regions were reserved for the twentieth century. The author's method of treatment has been a

combination of topical and period treatments. The two centuries discussed are divided into periods more or less corresponding in aims and methods of exploration, and each geographical division is treated for each period. Opinion will differ as to the wisdom of this treatment. The writer of this review has found it more interesting to read the book by topics, selecting for example, the chapters on the South Pacific, then those on America, and so on.

The book represents an enormous amount of reading. Its great value lies in bringing together in a handy reference book a great amount of information, well arranged, and well written. The great mass of detail, however, detracts from the readable qualities of the book, while the briefness of treatment of many lesser discoveries does not satisfy the student who may use the book for reference. Complete elimination of many lesser explorers would not detract from either its interest or its value. The book is profusely illustrated with cuts and maps—many of them reproductions of old charts taken from the original documents, some of them new and original. The very complete index greatly adds to its value as a work of reference.

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HUBBARD, A. J. *The Fate of the Empires*. Pp. xx, 220. Price, \$2.10. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1913.

Civilization, according to the author, is the joint product of Instinct, Reason, and the Religious Motive. "Instinct" is the inherited inborn impulse essential to race survival and subordinates the individual to the race. It involves a birth rate limited only by physical possibilities, a merciless sacrifice and an unlimited waste of individual life. The unmitigated struggle for existence created by pure instinct is modified by "Reason"—the logical faculty, untouched by Instinct from below, and dissociated from the Religious Motive above (p. 28), which relates the individual to "Society—the sum of individuals co-existing at any time" (p. 33), resulting in the perception of a conflict of interests, and, to the degree that pure "Reason" controls, mitigates this conflict through socialism and a decreased birth rate, to the great advantage of the individual and to "Society" but destructive of "Race"—"The sum of the, as yet, unborn generations." As "Reason" overcomes "Instinct" Society educates, and at the same time, extinguishes itself. This has been the history of Empires, *e.g.* Greece and Rome.

Whether or not a progressive and yet stable civilization can be created depends upon a reconciliation of these two tendencies. This can be secured only through an ultra-rational religious motive which substitutes a cosmocentric for a geocentric philosophy of life based upon "self sacrifice that is offered upon the altars of the Most High,"—"an authority external to ourselves" (p. 76).

It is keenly to be regretted that the author, with such keen insight into the analysis of social forces should have taken recourse to a form of religious philosophy now so generally superseded by a clearer realization that its best means